

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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|----------------------|---|------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Applicant(s):</b> | Hisashi Kuroshima, et al.               | <b>Examiner:</b> | Sean Everett Conley |
| <b>Serial No:</b>    | 10/696,638                              | <b>Art Unit:</b> | 1797                |
| <b>Filed:</b>        | October 29, 2003                        | <b>Docket:</b>   | 17154               |
| <b>For:</b>          | STORAGE DEVICE FOR<br>STEAM STERILIZING | <b>Dated:</b>    | January 15, 2008    |
| <b>Conf. No.:</b>    | 5491                                    |                  |                     |

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENMDENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

Sir:

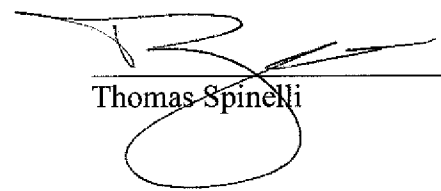
In response to the Final Official Action dated October 15, 2007, Applicants have filed a Request For Continued Examination (RCE) herewith along with the present Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. Applicants respectfully request that, prior to continued examination, the above-identified application be amended as follows:

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**CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC FILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Patent & Trademark Office via Electronic Filing through the United States Patent and Trademark Office e-business website on the date set forth below.

Dated: January 15, 2008

  
Thomas Spinelli